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Agenda item 55 (a)
Globalization and interdependence

South Africa:* draft resolution

Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 53/169 of 15 December 1998, 54/231 of 22 December 1999, 55/212 of 20 December 2000, 56/209 of 21 December 2001, 57/274 of 20 December 2002, 58/225 of 23 December 2003, 59/240 of 22 December 2004 and 60/204 of 22 December 2005 on the role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence,

Recalling also its resolution 57/270 B of 23 June 2003 on the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields,

Recalling further the 2005 World Summit Outcome and all relevant General Assembly resolutions, in particular those that have built upon the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[1] in the economic, social and related fields, including Assembly resolution 60/265 on follow-up to the 2005 World Summit Outcome in the economic, social and related fields,

Emphasizing the need to fully implement the global partnership for development and enhance the momentum generated by the 2005 World Summit in order to operationalize and implement, at all levels, the commitments in the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits, including the 2005 World Summit, in the economic, social and related fields,

Recognizing that countries diverge greatly in terms of their abilities to access, diffuse and use scientific and technological knowledge, most of which is generated in developed countries and protected by intellectual property rights,

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* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] See resolution 60/1.

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Recognizing also that developing countries have varying capacities to translate scientific and technological knowledge into goods and services and to invest in human resources and entrepreneurial capacity-building,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[2]

2. *Recognizes* that many countries, especially the least developed countries, have remained marginalized in the globalizing world economy, and recognizes also that, as stated in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[3] the benefits are very unevenly shared, while the costs are unevenly distributed;

3. *Reaffirms* the need for the United Nations to play a fundamental role in the promotion of international cooperation for development and the coherence, coordination and implementation of development goals and actions agreed upon by the international community, and resolves to strengthen coordination within the United Nations system in close cooperation with all other multilateral financial, trade and development institutions in order to support sustained economic growth, poverty eradication and sustainable development;

4. *Underlines* the fact that the increasing interdependence of national economies in a globalizing world and the emergence of rule-based regimes for international economic relations have meant that the space for national economic policy, i.e., the scope for domestic policies, especially in the areas of trade, investment and industrial development, is now often framed by international disciplines, commitments and global market considerations, that it is for each Government to evaluate the trade-off between the benefits of accepting international rules and commitments and the constraints posed by the loss of policy space and that it is particularly important for developing countries, bearing in mind development goals and objectives, that all countries take into account the need for appropriate balance between national policy space and international disciplines and commitments;

5. *Recognizes* that the growing gap in technology and scientific capabilities between developed and developing countries is a continuing concern as it impedes the capacity of many developing countries to participate fully in the global economy;

6. *Recognizes also* that science and technology are vital for sharing the benefits of globalization;

7. *Recognizes further* that making globalization a positive force for all can be accomplished through the involvement, cooperation and partnership of Governments and other stakeholders and that promoting international cooperation for development and promoting policy coherence on global development issues are indispensable to this end;

8. *Stresses* that the "international technology gap" is one of the main causes of the rapidly expanding socio-economic gap between developed and developing countries and rich and poor nations and constitutes a major challenge for developing countries in their efforts to achieve the development goals;

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[2] A/61/286.

[3] See resolution 55/2.

9. *Urges* the international community to work together to ensure that the development dimensions are mainstreamed into global intellectual property rights regimes, guaranteeing an adequate diffusion of scientific and technical knowledge and avoiding excessively high costs of proprietary technology;

10. *Stresses* the need to promote and facilitate access to the development, transfer and diffusion of technologies to developing countries and stresses also the need to enhance the development dimension of the international intellectual property rights system, taking into account the different levels of development of developing countries, with a view to ensuring affordable access to necessary basic products, including medicines and educational tools and software, the transfer of knowledge, the promotion of research and stimulation of innovation and creativity;

11. *Calls for* technical and financial assistance to developing countries in their efforts to build the human and institutional capacity needed to pursue policies that strengthen their national innovation systems, taking into account their own unique needs, their priorities and their stages of development, and that encourage investments in science and technology education not only for the generation of new technologies but also for the acquisition of the capacities to adapt science and technology developed elsewhere to local conditions;

12. *Recognizes* that science and technology, including information and communication technologies, are vital for the achievement of development goals and that international support can help developing countries to benefit from technological advancements and enhance their productive capacity, and in this regard reaffirms the commitment to promoting and facilitating, as appropriate, access to and the development, transfer and diffusion of technologies, including environmentally sound technologies and corresponding know-how, to developing countries;

13. *Calls for* the creation of an international database on knowledge and research information resulting from publicly funded research and development projects so as to assist developing countries in accessing technologies and know-how for creating technology-based enterprises and upgrading existing industries;

14. *Also calls for* regional, subregional and interregional joint research and development projects by mobilizing existing scientific and research and development resources and, where feasible, constructing and supporting cyber-research laboratories by networking sophisticated scientific facilities and research equipment;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-second session a report on globalization and interdependence, on the theme "Policy space in the context of globalization and interdependence", under the item entitled "Globalization and interdependence".